

DSHS Reinventing the MMIS



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Medical Assistance Administration, DSHS

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CMS approves RFP and APD in record time – six days!!

Eyes were wide and jaws dropped when word came down from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Service (CMS) that the MMIS Request for Proposal (RFP) and project funding were approved. CMS will provide 90% federal funding for the initiative.

“The turnaround time for a review can be as much as 60 days” Project Manager **John Anderson** said. “We were all stunned at how fast the approval came back to us.”

The official submission of the RFP and APD (Advanced Planning Document) was on May 21, and the approval came back May 27 -- a stunning turnaround time of six days.

Steve Roehrs, financial analyst to the project, spread the news after getting the word from CMS.

“Both the RFP and the APD were approved about a month ahead of schedule. Given our tight timeline,

any extra time on the schedule is great news.”

Levity was in the air as word spread through the project, but it soon was overtaken by the realization that all dependent tasks need to be put on a fast track to accommodate the new schedule.

The project’s next steps include completing a procurement library for vendors, updating a sample contract, creating the RFP announcement and securing vendor evaluation teams.

The vendor evaluation teams, with representatives from throughout DSHS, will be trained in the scoring of requirements and the RFP evaluation process.

The RFP is scheduled to go out Monday, June 14, 2004, with responses due August 16, 2004.

The MMIS Re-Procurement Newsletter

*Medical Assistance
Administration, DSHS*

Visit the DSHS Intranet
<http://mmis.dshs.wa.gov>

Calendar

June

14 - Release RFP
25 - Bidders Conference
22 - CAT Meeting

JULY

27 - CAT Meeting

AUGUST

16 – Bidders Proposals
Due, Evaluations Begin

SEPTEMBER

22 – Announce Apparent
Successful Vendor,
Contract Negotiations
Begin

MMIS questions?
Contact
Communications
Manager
Kathleen Wyer
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MMIS Internet site goes live in June

Record-breaking seems to be catching within the MMIS Re-Procurement Project. Not only was the RFP approved in astonishing time, but the MMIS Internet site was also approved quickly.

“I think this has to be a record for the shortest review period,” said **Bri Petroski**, MAA Web Services Administrator.

The Internet site must go through a substantial sub-site review by DSHS Information System Services Division and Communications prior to being posted on the main DSHS Web site. The Internet address is: <http://maa/dshs.wa.gov/maa/mmis> The site is scheduled to go live June 14. The primary audience for the Internet site is MMIS vendors and DSHS providers impacted by the Re-Procurement effort.

For internal communications visit: <http://mmis.dshs.wa.gov>

Vendor evaluation

The process of selecting a vendor to procure a modern MMIS will not be a small task. Proposals received in response to the RFP will be evaluated under the direction of several DSHS teams.

An evaluation plan has been developed to assist state staff in structuring the evaluation process and conducting a comprehensive and impartial evaluation of the proposals. Proposals will be submitted in four parts: Management Proposal;

Technical Proposal; Functional Proposal; and Financial-Contractual Proposal. Each of these proposals will be evaluated by state staff, assisted by the MMIS Re-Procurement Project team and Central Contracts staff.

Evaluation will last about a month before all the scores are tallied, weighed and normalized. In addition to the evaluation of written proposals, potential vendors will be interviewed and asked to demonstrate specific capabilities of their proposed system.

“Those involved in the evaluation teams are dedicating a large amount of time and expertise to a decision that will affect all of us for many years to come,” said **Karen De Leon**, Business Analyst Manager.

“We appreciate all the effort and commitment they have put into the process.”

Evaluators have been invited from several administrations throughout DSHS. When the appointments are finalized, evaluators will receive training on the scoring and weighing process.

The announcement of the apparent successful vendor is scheduled for September 22, 2004.

Forum update

The May 18 MMIS Re-Procurement Forum in the OB2 Auditorium detailed the project's timeline, phases, who will be moving to the new MMIS and

when, scope of the RFP, and requirements at the enterprise level.

DSHS staff who were unable to attend the presentation may review the Power Point slides at: <http://mmis.dshs.wa.gov>

By helping us, we'll help you

The Re-Procurement team is counting on your help to make the new system successful.

We want the best fit for the new MMIS and we need you to try it on for size.

Those who utilize the system in their jobs can give insightful feedback on vendor design, user screens, or a number of other requirements that will be put to the test when the new MMIS is being constructed.

During the design, development, and implementation phases you may be asked to verify requirements, review and comment on design deliverables and participate in testing of system components, in doing so you will be helping us help you.

